

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI. MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a): No, Sir.

(b) to (d): Do not arise.

[*Translation*]

Setting up of Licensed Post Offices in Urban Areas

6802. SHRI. DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a). whether the Government have approved a scheme to set up licensed post offices in Urban and Semi-Urban areas;

(b). whether the Government have modified the policy in this regard; and

(c). if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI. RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (c): No, Sir. However, a scheme of Licensed Postal Agents was introduced in August 1985 with the objective of reducing operational expenditure in urban areas, introducing an element of competition in running of the post offices and providing basic needs namely availability of stamps and stationery and despatch of mails at points where post offices do not exist. At present the number of Licensed Postal Agents functioning in the country is about 200. No final view has been taken as yet in regard to modification or discontinuance of Licensed Postal Agency Scheme.

[*English*]

Royalty Collected from Mining Companies of Goa

6803. SHRI. HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the royalty on iron ore collected from the various mining companies in Goa during the last three years, year-wise; and

(b) the amount of royalty collected from the top five iron export companies in Goa during the above period, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) and (b): The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Alleged Irregularities in HAU, Hissar

6804. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a). whether several cases of irregularities in Haryana Agricultural University, Hissar have been brought to the notice of the Union Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI. K.C. LENKA): (a): No sir.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

Telephone Connections at Goriyar Kothi and Siwan in Bihar

6805. SHRI. SURYA NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons on the waiting list for telephone connections at Goriya Kothi and Siwan in Bihar; and

(b) the steps taken to provide telephone connections to all the applicants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI. RAJESH PILOT): (a). As on 31.7.91, the number of persons on the waiting list for the telephone connections in Siwan are 206. There is no registered demand (i.e. prospective subscriber actually depositing the registration charges) so far at Goriya Kothi where only one Long Distance Public Telephone is working.

(b). The waiting list at Siwan is expected to be cleared before March, 1995 by replacing the existing 800 lines exchange with a larger exchange.

Joint Venture Project of Sponge Iron in Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh

6806. SHRI. G.M.C. BALAYOGI: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether M/s. ESSAR Gujarat Ltd., is going to set up a joint venture project of Sponge Iron in Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the construction work of the project is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI. SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a): Government are not aware of any such proposal.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Telecom Facilities in Jamnagar District Gujarat

6807. SHRI. CHANDRESH PATEL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are demands for providing Telephones, STDs, FAX and Tele-

printers facilities at various places in Jamnagar District;

(b). if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon;

(c). the plans, proposals, schemes and estimates for providing such facilities in the district during 1991-92 and 1992-93; and

(d). the number of Telephones, FAX, STD and Teleprinters provided at Jamnagar and other places in the district from January 1, 1989 to July 31, 1991?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI. RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (c): Yes, Sir. Demand for new telephone connections as on 31.8.1991 in Jamnagar District is 1734. There is no demand for Telex, Fax and Teleprinters. In respect of STD, there is no registered demand maintained. Instead, STD linkage is provided depending on plan objectives and/or requirement assessed by the local unit.

The present waiting list for telephones is expected to be cleared progressively by March, 1993.

STD links are available at six places in Jamnagar district. During 1991-92, STD links are proposed to be provided at ten places. The expenses for all these plans and proposals are expected to be met out of the Capital Outlay of Gujarat Telecom Circle.

(d). The number of telephones, FAX, STD links, Telex and Teleprinters provided in Jamnagar district from January 1, 1989 to July 31, 1991 are as under:-

Telephones	3729
FAX	22
STD Links	4